

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of Drawings include additional Figs. 8a, 8b, and 8c. These sheets which include Figs. 8a-8c illustrate in flow diagram form steps/processes which are carried out in accordance with certain exemplary embodiments of the present invention, as set forth in the Disclosure and Claims as originally filed.

Attachments: Drawing Sheets (3)

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Office Action dated 8 May 2007. Responsive to that Office Action, Claims 11 and 16 are amended for further prosecution with the other pending Claims. It is believed that with such amendment of Claims, there is a further clarification of their recitations.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the Drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(b) for omitting flow chart-type drawings which illustrate the steps/processes that are being carried out. Accordingly, additional Drawing sheets including Figs. 8a, 8b and 8c which show illustrative flow diagrams are submitted herewith. As these Drawings find basis in the Specification and Claims as originally filed, they are not believed to introduce any new matter.

The Brief Description of the Drawings section of the Disclosure is amended to preserve consistency with the Drawings. The section makes clear reference to the newly-inserted Figures.

Also in the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 11-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by the Graves, et al. reference.

As newly-amended independent Claims 11 and 16 each now more fully recite, Applicants' method includes among its combinations of features that of "constructing and applying a luminance curve" in enhancing a video signal. This luminance curve is based on "a luminance-mapping curve undulating about a point of inflection defined by a neutral point," as each of the newly-amended Claims 11 and 16 clarifies.

The full combination of these and other features now more clearly recited by the pending Claims is nowhere disclosed by the cited Graves, et al. reference. Graves, et al.

prescribes a graphical user interface which permits users to hand-pick certain pixels of color images for correction, and to test the images for over saturation and luminance clipping in order to precisely focus corrective action on those problematic pixels. The graphical user interface is intended for use by “post-production specialists” so that they might “have a wide latitude of control” manually over the colors seen in a series of images (paragraph [0052]). Where the specialist selects the colorspace of certain pixels in an image and graphically “push[es]” the pixels to adjust their luminance levels towards a desired hue, other luminance level pixels “are affected proportionally,” or in certain cases “in a manner proportional to a difference between” selected and other pixel luminance levels (paragraph [0007]).

Examples of such manual adjustments and those proportionally corresponding thereto are illustrated by the curves shown in Figs. 14(a)-14(g) of the reference. The corresponding “proportional” adjustments characterize a response that clearly precludes any “undulating” “luminance-mapping curve,” much less one which undulates “about a point of inflection defined by a neutral point,” as each of the newly-amended independent Claims 11 and 16 now more clearly recites. The “proportional” effect (of Graves, et al.’s the manual adjustment) upon the other pixels’ luminance levels yield quite to the contrary.

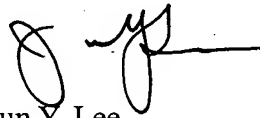
It is respectfully submitted therefore, that the cited Graves, et al. reference fails to disclose the unique combinations of features now more clearly recited by Applicants’ pending Claims for the purposes and objectives disclosed in the subject Patent Application. The other references cited by the Examiner but not used in the rejection are

believed to be further remote from Applicants' claimed method when patentability considerations are taken properly into account.

It is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed fully in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

If there are any charges associated with this filing, the Honorable Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account #18-2011 for such charges.

Respectfully submitted,
For: ROSENBERG, KLEIN & LEE

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jun Y. Lee', written over a horizontal line.

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